*Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—There was an inquest report. There was a panchanam report and there was a *post mortem* report. All these things state that.

Sri K. S. VASAN.—Is not this enquiry under Section 176 Cr. P.C. to be conducted by the District Magistrate or the in-charge First Class Magistrate of the place ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—It will have to be sent to the District Magistrate whose order is complete in the matter.

Sri K. S. VASAN.—Is it not a fact that this man was actually taken into police custody on 26th January and that after eleven days, he was found dead in the police lock-up ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—My report is otherwise. My report is that he was taken into police custody on 4th February 1956 at 2-15 P.M.

Sri K. S. VASAN.—Is it consistent with the evidence given during the enquiry held by the District Magistrate?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—Sir, that I cannot disclose, because so far as our report is concerned, the District Magistrate has to pass an order on that. I have given only the ultimate findings as disclosed in the panchanam.

Sri K. S. VASAN.—Would the Government direct an enquiry into this by a judicial authority ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—Let us wait what the order of the District Magistrate will be. Then we will see.

Sri P. M. SWAMIDURAI.—Are you in receipt of the report of the enquiry ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—Yes.

Sri P. M. SWAMIDURAI.—Do you not find in that report that the evidence produced by the Police itself speaks to the effect that the accused was in the lock up before 4th ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—As I said, it is still *sub judice* and the District Magistrate has to pass his orders on that. The report has to be submitted to him.

Sri P. M. SWAMIDURAI.—Anyhow, will the Government constitute a committee of enquiry to find out the reality and do justice ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—Let us see what the order of the District Magistrate will be. Then we shall see what can be done.

1 P.M.

Sri Mulka GOVINDA REDDY.—May I know who this Natesan is ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—This Natesan was grave digger.

Sri Mulka GOVINDA REDDY.—May I know when he was arrested ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—He was arrested for offence under sections 457 and 380, I. P.C., on 4-2-56.

Sri Mulka GOVINDA REDDY.—May I know whether he was a habitual offender ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—All those details I cannot disclose.

ಶ್ರೀ ಬಿ. ಹುಚ್ಚೇಗೌಡ.—ಡೆಪ್ಯುಟಿ ಕಮಿಷನರಿಗೆ ಈ ವರದಿ ಎಂದು ಹೋಯಿತು ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಚ್. ಸಿದ್ದವೀರಪ್ಪ.—ಅಕ್ಟೋಬರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಾಗಿ ವರದಿ ಕಳುಹಿಸಿರುವ ತಾರೀಖು ಈಗ ನನ್ನಲ್ಲಿಲ್ಲ.

ಶ್ರೀ ಬಿ. ಹುಚ್ಚೇಗೌಡ.—ಈ ಕೃತ್ಯ ನಡೆದು ಎರಡು ತಿಂಗಳಾದರೂ ಇಲ್ಲಿಯವರೆಗೂ ಡೆಪ್ಯುಟಿ ಕಮಿಷನರು ಕೇಸನ್ನು ದಾಖಲು ಮಾಡಿಲ್ಲವೆ ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—I have not got further information in the matter.

ಶ್ರೀ ಬಿ. ಹುಚ್ಚೇಗೌಡ.—ಈ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ ಬಂದ ಮೇಲಾದರೂ ಕೂಡ ನಿಧಾನ ಮಾಡುವುದರಿಂದ ಜಸ್ಟಿಸ್ ಡಿನೈ ಮಾಡಿದ ಹಾಗಾಗುತ್ತದೆಂದು ತಿಳಿಯುವುದಕ್ಕಾಗಲಿಲ್ಲವೆ ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—It will be improper on the part of Government to interfere at this stage of investigation. I would not normally do it.

Rock-burst in Champion Reef Mine.

Q.—2. Sri K. S. VASAN (Kolar Gold Fields).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) whether they have a complete report of the circumstances, the extent of damage, etc., of rock-burst that occurred on 11th February 1956 at 1-20 A.M., in the north section of the Champion Reef Mine in Gold Fields ;

(*b*) whether they are aware that the Mining Company has decided to abandon that portion of Mine ;

(SRI K. S. VASAN.)

(c) whether such a decision of the Mining Company will affect :

(1) the continued employ of about 1,500 Miners ;

(2) about 1/3 of the production of the mine ; and

(3) the very future of the Champion Reef Mine.

(d) whether this is not a fit case for enquiry by a team of experts, both technical and financial, under the Mines Act, in the best interest of the Mine's future, the State and the workers ?

A.—Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA (Minister for Home).—

(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) (1) It is inevitable that a number of workers will become redundant, but the actual number is not known ;

(2) Yes ; as a result of the rock-burst ;

(3) Please see answer to (b) ;

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to (b).

Sri K. S. VASAN.—Did the Minister make a personal inspection of the damages of this rock burst ?

*Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—Yes.

Sri. K. S. VASAN.—What is the extent of damage done to the shaft and the levels ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—About 5 to 6 lakhs of rupees.

Sri K. S. VASAN.—What are the details of the damage ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—Sir, it is a very big report that I have got in this behalf. If the Hon'ble Member wants to look into all those details, I shall place it on the Table of the House.

Sri K. S. VASAN.—You have stated that the Mining Company have not abandoned the mining of that portion. Are the Governmet not aware of the fact that the Mining Company has suspended all mining operations in the section ?

Sri H.. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—Necessarily, because the operations are at a stand-still.

Sri K. S. VASAN.—Are the Government aware that the Mining Company Management have removed the iron rails, pipe lines, the etc ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—That I cannot say. They have not yet taken up the work of renovation as they ought to have done under the circumstances ; that is all I know. Whether they have removed iron things etc., I do not know because when. I paid a visit, nothing had been removed. I am taking as much precaution as possible to see that they do not remove anything or sell anything without the express orders of the Government. If they do it, they do it at their own risk.

Sri K. S. VASAN.—What is the monthly production of that section of the mine ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—At different levels we get different rate of production. The normal production in 1953 in top level, in main row shaft was somewhere about 50 tons ; in auxilary section 80 tons ; Eastern Flods 80 to 100 tons ; Tenant section 175 tons ; Biddicks 120 tons ; at the lower level it was really of the very high grade at 11 penny weight. So, it differs.

Sri K. S. VASAN.—What would it cost to reclaiming the shaft and resume the normal operations ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—5 to 6 lakhs of rupees.

Sri K. S. VASAN.—Is it not a fact that after a rock burst the Mining Company reclaimed the damaged portion of the mine ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—They used to do it. As a matter of fact, there is nothing extraordinary about this because during the last 2 to 3 years there are quite a large number of rock bursts. I have got figures to show that from 11-10-1951 up to the last, there may be about 15 to 16 rock bursts of various orders.

Sri K. S. VASAN.—Are the Government aware that the Mining Company are depleting all the ore resources of the top ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—I have got a report so show that they are working at the surface.

Sri K. S. VASAN.—Are the Government aware that this is being done to forestall the Cabinet's decision to nationalise the mines ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—Well, it may lead to that inference. I have kept the Government of India informed of it, as to how every day's delay meant so much of injury to us.

Sri K. S. VASAN.—Will the Government make a categorical statement whether the Central Government had at any time during the last one year expressed their willingness to nationalise these Mines ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—If I could take this House into confidence, they have accepted the principle of nationalisation of the Mines ; the only thing that remains is that compensation and other things will have to be worked out.

Sri K. S. VASAN.—Is it not a fact that this Government stated on an earlier occasion that the State Legislature is quite competent to legislate regarding the nationalisation scheme ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—Even to-day that is the view. Our legislative competence is never questioned. But the assent of the President is necessary in order that the Bill that we pass becomes effective.

Sri K. S. VASAN.—Would this Government tell the Central Government that any further delay in this matter is dangerous and ruinous and is not in the interest of the industry's future ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—It is for that reason that our Chief Minister has been invited to come to Delhi and finalise the talks as early as possible.

Sri P. M. SWAMIDURAI.—May I know whether the Government have ascertained the cause of the rock burst ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—Natural causes that happen because this is the deepest mine in the world.

Sri P. M. SWAMIDURAI.—Is it the opinion given by the Mining Inspector ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—In this particular case I have a report that the rock burst is due to natural causes.

Sri P. M. SWAMIDURAI.—Will it not be possible for the Mining Authority to work that section again ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—It is a duty cast on them to do it.

Mr. SPEAKER.—Question hour is over.

QUESTIONS FOR ANSWERS ON THE DAY

(But not taken up).

Electric Power Supply to I.P. Sets in Chitaldrug District.

Q.—163. Sri Mulka GOVINDA REDDY (Chitaldrug).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) the names of villages from which applications for power supply for I.P. sets were received from Chitaldrug District during the last two years ;

(*b*) how many of them have been sanctioned ;

(*c*) how many are pending and where pending ?

A.—Sri H. M. CHANNABASAPPA (Minister for Industries).—

(*a*) *Vide* list appended 'A'.

(*b*) 140.

(*c*) 81 (*vide* list appended 'C').